

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 253 – SB 760

March 3, 2019

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires a local education agency (LEA) to provide services for students with appropriate tiered dyslexia-specific intervention through a teacher trained in dyslexia intervention. Beginning in the 2019-20 school year, requires the Department of Education (DOE) to employ at least one dyslexia specialist to provide assistance to LEAs in screening, identifying, and treating dyslexia and related disorders. Beginning in the 2020-21 school year, requires each LEA that serves students in grades K-12 to employ at least one teacher trained in dyslexia intervention at each public school within the LEA.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures – \$97,700/Recurring

Increase Local Expenditures – \$1,221,100/FY20-21*
\$111,100/FY21-22 and Subsequent Years*

Assumptions:

- Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-1-229 requires that any student having characteristics of dyslexia must receive services provided by a teacher trained in dyslexia intervention.
- Beginning in FY20-21, the proposed legislation would require LEAs that serve students in grades K-12 to employ one teacher trained in dyslexia intervention for each school.
- There are currently approximately 100,000 students (10 percent of student population) receiving dyslexia intervention services.
- Interventions are done with student groups of six or less and it is estimated that one teacher on average can serve 3 intervention groups.
- It is assumed that 5,556 [(100,000 students / 6-person groups) / 3 intervention groups] teachers will need to be trained to provide intervention.
- It is assumed that LEAs will pay for the cost of the training sessions.
- Class size will be limited to 30 teachers per training session, which will require 185 training initial sessions (5,556 teachers / 30-teacher class size).
- The average cost of training is \$6,000 per session, which will result in a one-time increase in local expenditures of \$1,110,000 (185 sessions x \$6,000).
- Teacher turnover is estimated to be 10 percent per year, which result in annual training sessions. The recurring increase in local expenditures is estimated to be \$111,120 {[(5,556 teachers x 10% turnover) / 30-teacher class size] x \$6,000 per session}.

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- Local expenditures will not beginning until FY20-21; therefore, the FY20-21 expenditures will be \$1,221,120 (\$1,110,000 + \$111,120). Local expenditures in FY21-22 and subsequent years will be \$111,120.
- DOE will be required to employ at least one dyslexia specialist with at least 3 years of field experience. The recurring increase in state expenditures for one Education Consultant 3 position at a mid-range salary point is estimated be \$97,701 (\$73,872 salary + \$18,829 benefits + \$5,000 travel).

**Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/alh